

## Young Activists for Peace

Training, Evaluation and Planning Seminar for Youth Workers

“Young Activists for Peace and A World We Want”

Berlin, 30.10. - 05.11.2018



**Contents:**

- Young Activists for Peace and a World We Want ..... 3
- Program Overview..... 4
- Daily Reports ..... 6
  - Day 1 – Tuesday 30/10/2018 ..... 6
  - Day 2 – Wednesday 31/10/2018..... 7
  - Day 3 – Thursday 01/11/2018 ..... 10
  - Day 4 – Friday 02/11/2018 ..... 12
  - Day 5 – Saturday 03/11/2018 ..... 14
  - Day 6 – Sunday 04/11/2018 ..... 15
- Conclusions..... 20
  - Feed back of volunteers ..... 21
  - Quantitative Analysis – Results from Evaluation Form ..... 22
- Annex..... 23
  - Presentations of potential future projects..... 23
  - Participating Organizations ..... 28
  - Articles, Links and Social Media ..... 28
  - Coordinating Organization..... 31

# Young Activists for Peace and a World We Want

## Training, Evaluation and Planning Seminar for Youth Workers

**Berlin, 30.10. - 05.11.2018**

### WHY?

Since 2015 ICJA offers trainings and youth exchanges in the frame of a concept we call “Young Activists for Peace”. In four years we cooperated with 14 different partner organizations to bring together over 300 participants from different corners of the European Union, Eastern Europe and Caucasus, as well as the Mediterranean Region.

“Young Activists for Peace” trainings and youth exchange activities offered a wide range of activities, topics and pedagogical concepts in the field of peace education, trainings for democracy, empowerment for youngsters with fewer opportunities etc. Our partnership strongly believes in the impact of this work on the young participants and in the long run, also on their societies and a more democratic, fair and peaceful world.



After a series of four projects the Young Activists for Peace partners felt it was time to evaluate the work and impact of the activities run together and to jointly analyze the challenges of recent political developments in Europe and worldwide. This was also an opportunity to and work on a new generation of projects and to improve the quality and raise the impact and visibility of our work.

### WHAT?

The Training, Evaluation and Planning Seminar provided sessions and opportunities to:

- ✚ Learn and reflect about the concept “Young Activists for Peace” and other peace and diversity-oriented concepts and methods and to assess the impact of such activities
- ✚ Learn and reflect about the Sustainable Development Goals and the contribution their achievement could make to lasting peace at society and global level.
- ✚ Discuss what is required so that more and more young people will stand up against racism and intolerance and for the utopia of a better world based on peaceful dialogue.
- ✚ Learn about methods and get know-how regarding peace-oriented youth work activities and concepts.
- ✚ Work in a structured way on approaches and ideas for future Youth Exchange and nonformal learning activities which foster the democratic values and active citizenship of young people

# Program Overview

## Day 1

- ❖ Arrival and getting to know each other
- ❖ Welcome evening
- ❖ Highlights of the past young activist for peace projects.

## Day 2

- ❖ Introductory Session (continued)
- ❖ Expectations of the group and weighing what more participants would like to focus on
- ❖ Aims of the training seminar / Programme presentation
- ❖ Presentation of peace related activities of the partner organisations
- ❖ Introduction to YAP Projects 2015-2018 (powerpoint)
- ❖ Video introduction by the "Youth as Agents of Peace" Trainer Christoph P.
- ❖ Introduction to Methods „Youth as Agents of Peace“ and comments by those participants who have experienced them / Participants share their experience of participating in different methods of "Friedensstifter" Concept
- ❖ Evaluation of the project results of "Young Activists for Peace" by ICJA
- ❖ Highlights and personal experiences with projects 2015-2018
- ❖ Method "Humans of New York"



## Day 3

- ❖ Introduction to Working Groups (WG) as Impact assessments
- ❖ WG 1: "The view and experience of Participants"
- ❖ WG 2: "The view and experience of local communities and partner organisations"
- ❖ WG 3: "The view and experience of refugees"
- ❖ WG 4: Peace Education as underlying concept of youth exchange - what did we achieve regarding "Peace" and how do we see the future?
- ❖ Presentation of Results by Working groups
- ❖ Presentation of working group results in and conclusions from all Working Groups
- ❖ Conclusion or summary in plenary leading over to the next programme part.
- ❖ Theory and praxis of other approaches (i.e. "Betzavta", Diversity, etc.)
- ❖ Input and practice of methods by expert / after each practice evaluation of how method was introduced and received by participants
- ❖ Input on Method "Reconciliation"

#### **Day 4**

- ❖ Agenda 2010, SDG's and the World We Want
- ❖ Project visit "Berlin Global Village"
- ❖ Presentation of strategies and campaigns which have proven successful in mobilizing youth toward SDG 16

#### **Day 5**

- ❖ Evaluation of project visit/discussion on organization visited
- ❖ The results of the "Erasmus+ Youth in Action Midterm Evaluation"
- ❖ New Developments: the European Solidarity Corps
- ❖ Introduction "Future Workshop"
- ❖ Future Workshop: Critique Phase
- ❖ Future Workshop: Fantasy Phase

#### **Day 6**

- ❖ Future Workshop: Implementation Phase
- ❖ Finalizing future actions/initiatives
- ❖ Youthpass
- ❖ Evaluation

#### **Day 7**

- ❖ Farewell and Departure of Volunteers

# Daily Reports

Day 1 – Tuesday 30/10/2018

## Introduction

The seminar started out with an introductory session in the evening. The late evening start gave everyone the time they needed to arrive in Berlin; many of the participants had had quite the journey. Stephan, the director of ICJA, gave us a warm welcome and a passionate talk regarding the importance of the Young Activists for Peace program especially during the current political situation and climate in Europe. He expressed his expectation, that all international partner organizations present would actively contribute towards the further development of the program, provide their own perspectives and highlight their needs.

After Stephan's welcome note, participants and organizers got the chance to introduce themselves. First, the group was split into pairs as a first step and then each pair got the task to introduce themselves to each other, eg. Talking about their name, country and partner organization, their relation to the Young Activists for Peace program and to find out one unexpected fact about the other person. This helped everyone to be acquainted with each other before continuing happily with dinner.

It was a pity to learn that Christoph, the renowned trainer everybody was so eagerly anticipating, could not take part because of a health issue.

## Teambuilding and welcome evening

After feasting on nice and diverse food at the hostel, we returned to the seminar room for the final session. Nikolaus and Katharina introduced the technical details of the seminar and the program for the following day. The final activity was a good opportunity for teambuilding. We could call it "What do you have in common?" For this task, we were given a large piece of paper on which we put our name cards and drew connection lines for us to see, what we actually did have in common. In the end, we were surprised to find out that we had so many things in common, despite being total strangers. It definitely helped to break the ice, people started chatting on a more personal level, exchanging experiences, and it was clear by that point that we would make a great team.

The evening finished with an informal gathering in the lobby of the youth hostel.

## Day 2 – Wednesday 31/10/2018

- ❖ Introductory Explanations (continued)
- ❖ Expectations of the group (Method Tree, Seeds, Garbage) and weighing what more participants would like to focus on (Methods, Evaluation, Developing new Projects?)
- ❖ Aims of the training seminar
- ❖ Programme presentation (Presentation of daily schedule, review of the aim, objectives and expected learning outcomes)
- ❖ Presentation of Peace related activities of the partner organisations
- ❖ Introduction to YAP Projects 2015-2018 (powerpoint)
- ❖ Show Video introduction of Christoph from Wernsdorf YE
- ❖ Introduction to Methods „Youth as Agents of Peace“ and comments by those participants who have experienced them
- ❖ Participants share their experience of participating in different methods of “Friedensstifter” Concept (What impacted you the most / least)
- ❖ The evaluation of Young Activities For Peace project of ICJA
- ❖ What were the positive and negative developments over these 4 years and how did we choose the themes of each year? What are our positive results, benefits and “construction sites”?
- ❖ Highlights and personal experiences with the Young Activists for Peace projects 2015-2017 Story-telling and presentation of photos, videos etc. produced by individual participants or groups. Presentation of dissemination material, press articles websites and social media groups which are still active (the participants should bring along and prepare the presentation on the first afternoon/evening, either on Flipchart or powerpoint.
- ❖ Method “Humans of New York”

### **Energizer, warm-up**

We started to move our hands (right-left) and our legs (right-left) for 10 times, then 9... etc. Then we introduced ourselves by saying our name, combining it with an adjective or a noun starting with the same letter as our name, also we performed a movement along with these. Each of us had to repeat the names, the words and the movements of the preceding members.

### **Expectations, contributions etc.**

We wrote on yellow post-it papers our expectations and how we could contribute towards their success and in orange post-it papers our concerns and fears about the program. We placed our post-it papers on the wall after talking about them individually. Our expectations were posted on a “tree” painted paper, our contributions on a “home” one, and our fears would be inside the “bin” one after the seminar finished, depending on whether the fears came true or not. After everyone shared their expectations etc., we made some internal commitments/general rules for our group:

Be honest in a way that is not insulting

We are part of an open forum; everyone should contribute to the discussion and work

Present to the group your thoughts, without fear or intimidation

Provide feedback

### **Preparations of presentations of each organization's projects**

Each delegation had a couple of minutes to prepare slides, photos and PowerPoint presentations about the ways in which their sending organization promotes youth non formal learning activities to promote peace. There was room for creativity and flexibility regarding the delivery of the presentations.

### **Presentations**

Each group had a couple of minutes to present the actions of their organization. Projects helping refugees or including refugees as participants, projects that promote peace education to refugees and a couple of Workcamps and trainings about peace education and peace promotion through social media were presented and explained what are the aims and results.

### **Evaluation of the work of the Young Activists for Peace trainings run so far**

We started with presenting a written evaluation of the previous training sessions about "Young Activists for Peace" by the trainer. His notes were read and a video of a previous youth exchange was shown. These were the conclusions:

- Sharing personal details/characteristics can bring people together and help them relate.
- Bonding between participants helps
- General rule - No judgement about each other.
- Some challenges came up as well: communication difficulties and the fact that sometimes participants come with different expectations
- Important to state that participant should be well informed and motivated to participate by their sending organization.

### **Workshop: "Humans of..." / facilitated by Nik**

Find someone of the group who you do not know and interview him/her. In pairs, we interviewed each other and made a profile page including a photo that would present the person in a way that matched his/her story. The concept of that exercise is not to find something special about the other's story, but to concentrate and simply listen to what the other person wants to share. Even the simplest and trivial information could be interesting to write about, since everyone is different. We shared our stories on the wall so we had the chance to know our partners' stories better and there were in deed very surprising stories of participants in this group.

### **Reflection of the day**

In groups, we shared our opinions and impressions through constructive dialogue regarding that day's activities. Then we sent those reflection as mini-reports to our facilitators, in order to get feedback and implement possible changes on the next day's program.



## Outcomes

In general, we were able to get to know each other better and bond already on the first day. However, although the team building could have started a bit earlier, it was only after the activity “Humans of...” that we really started to break the ice.

Throughout the day we were informed about the other organizations’ actions so we could get an idea of what other people are doing in peace education, but these sessions remained a bit too general, with little creativity and motivation in the presentations. Moreover, we received feedback and had a small discussion after each presentation, and the idea of cooperation between organizations or individuals was born. With the creative sharing experience-activity (“Humans of...”), we were able to immerse ourselves into another culture by learning about other peoples’ experiences. Minds are like parachutes; they work better when they are open!

Concluding, it was an exciting and relaxing day (as first days should be...), with lots of information shared and a new methodology taught. It might be best to start with the team building activities for the future trainings; in order for people to be motivated and more united when it comes to looking at the past and dreaming of future co-operations.



## Day 3 – Thursday 01/11/2018

- ❖ Activities overview
- ❖ Energizer
- ❖ Impact assessment (in Working Groups)
- ❖ The views and experiences of participants
- ❖ The view of local communities and partner organizations
- ❖ The view and experience of refugees
- ❖ Peace Education as underlying concept youth exchange
- ❖ Coffee break
- ❖ Presentation of Working groups' results
- ❖ Lunch
- ❖ Presentation of Working Groups (follow up)
- ❖ Theory and practice of other approaches and concepts in non-formal youth work
- ❖ No Hate Speech Movement
- ❖ Betzavta
- ❖ Human Library
- ❖ Coffee break
- ❖ Presentation of method "Reconciliation"
- ❖ Dinner

### **Impact assessment (Working groups)**

In order to **provide feedback** regarding our different experiences and points of view and about the achievements of the past projects we **split into four groups**. The first one talked about the **views and experiences of participants**. The second was about the **effects of the project on local communities and the partner organisations**. The third group tried to **assess the experience of work with refugees**. The last group focused on the **Peace Education related topics for youth exchanges**.

The discussions went on for a fair amount of time, while trying to gather all the different experiences from different projects. We were trying to get a thorough understanding of the four years of projects in order to **point out the important details, the negative aspects and suggesting follow up activities/projects**.

We finally gathered after coffee break in order to present the results of our conversations.

**The first group** was the one about participants. They highlighted a gap between trainers' theoretical inputs and the activities led by the facilitators. Another point that stood out was the fact that the partner organizations should do a better job in terms of participants' selection.

According to this evaluation, our participants should have arrived more informed, prepared and committed; participants who could disseminate the output afterwards. As a follow up it should be expected and supported that participants after the activity are involved in similar projects developed by their own associations.

**The second group** talked about the impact of our projects on the local communities, which is hard to assess. They brought up recommendations to improve the impact such as selecting a target group (like the youth), creating a relationship with the local communities and reducing the distance; for example by using social Media. In addition, we mentioned that the positive impact should not stop at the end of the project but continue perhaps by the local communities themselves.

**The third group** talked about the views of refugees. It focused especially on projects, which took place within refugees' shelters. It has strongly emphasised that refugees should be able to participate at an equal level and that existing barriers and obstacles should be overcome by jointly looking for solutions. The group also pointed out that when you have a project in a refugee shelter you need time to create a relationship with the people. A suggestion to improve the project's quality was to appoint a coordinator within the refugees group to who would be responsible to facilitate a dialogue.

**The last group** talked about peace as a topic for a Youth Exchange. The result of the discussion was that it is sometimes frustrating to start from scratch with people who attend Youth Exchanges with a different motivation. In addition, it was explained that the output of the projects does not come immediately afterwards. Sometimes you need time to process what you have learned but eventually it can have a great influence on our future life as most of the participants had experienced themselves.

*As a comment to this activity, I would say that it really ignited the working mood of the group who finally immersed in the topic. We could get an overall overview of the 4-year-long-project. We have also set some main work targets and begun some debates that would hopefully continue for the next days.*

### **Theory and praxis of other approaches and concepts in non-formal youth work**

In this activity, we searched and discussed about the **non-formal education techniques** that are beneficially used in non-formal education mainly to **promote peace and cultural awareness**. At the beginning, we were **divided into three groups** and were assigned three different techniques. After researching the techniques in groups, we subsequently presented what we found about the techniques.

**The first title was 'No Hate Speech Movement'**. The No Hate Speech Movement is a youth campaign led by the Council of Europe Youth Department seeking to mobilise young people to combat hate speech and promote human rights online. Launched in 2013, it was rolled out at the national and local levels through national campaigns in 45 countries.

**The second title was the 'Betzavta'**. This method provides the youngsters with learning the language of democracy 'together' by means of empathetic understanding of the opposite side and the introspective observation of our inner thoughts and feelings. Betzavta is a Hebrew word which means "together". The title of this method for learning about democracy, which was developed by the Adam Institute in Israel, creates the programme and philosophical background at the same time. Betzavta questions the traditional and unsatisfactory paths of conventional conflict resolution with surprising seminar units and presents in its place the concept of creative conflict resolution. With the help of a special conflict dilemma method, it achieves the essential conditions for tolerant social interaction: the willingness to mutually recognize the right to personal freedom and other peoples' needs. On this basis, the four steps of democratic decision-making provide the conflicting parties with a valuable tool for dealing with conflicts in a novel way. Betzavta is an internationally renowned democracy education programme used in schools and non-school educational institutions.

**The third was 'Human Library'**. A Human Library is an event that aims to create dialogue and understanding between people. Individuals volunteer as human 'books' and participants in the event can 'read' the book- meaning they would have a one on one conversation with the volunteer and have a dialogue about that individual's experience.

*During this activity, I found a chance to improve my researching and presenting skills in a group, additionally, I learned several wonderful non-formal techniques that can be used in various ways of both our professional and personal lives.*

### **Presentation of method "Reconciliation"**

In the last activity of the day, we tried to combine the notions '**mercy**', '**truth**', '**peace**', '**justice**' all together in harmony. Initially we were **divided into four groups** and each of the groups was attached by one of the **four notions**. Then through some questions, the members of each group try to figure out the meanings and functions of the terms. Then, each of groups defended their notions focusing on their importance in the existence of 'peace'. At the end, we vividly discerned that, all of these entities should coexist. Otherwise, there may always be conflicts and deficiency in our lives.

*This controversial session enabled me to perceive all of these terms inseparable and complementary for peace. I find the conversations and the comments so fruitful but I preferred to talk more and wanted the others to talk more rather listening only some people that always dominantly talked during the sessions.*

*It seems important to me to say that this last activity took place when everyone was tired so it was really difficult to focus even though the topic was really interesting. Maybe it would be by me interesting to plan it earlier in the day.*

### **Day 4 – Friday 02/11/2018**

- ❖ -Breakfast
- ❖ -Project visit 'Berlin Global village'
- ❖ -Coffee Break
- ❖ -The Agenda 2030, SDG's and the World We Want (Presentation and Workshop)
- ❖ -Lunch Buffet at Global Village
- ❖ -Energizer "a rock, a scissors, a paper"
- ❖ -Idea sharing on SDG's and importance for future youth work activities.
- ❖ -Sight seeing
- ❖ -Dinner at the city center or at the hostel

### **Berlin Global Village**

We started the day with a visit of "Berlin Global Village". Berlin Global Village was created for the work of the individual actors and the development of joint projects to have a greater impact on the city. So in 2016 the one-world center was founded . This centre became a place of exchange,

inspiration and civic engagement for a more sustainable and equal city. We met with Michael Kuppers-Adebisi, who was kind enough to provide us with a tour. He patiently explained that Berlin needed a center in which the complex societal challenges are being tackled with interdisciplinary methods from a perspective of global justice. Such a center provides the civil society organizations and initiatives with excellent working conditions, while engaging the politically interested public in exciting discourses. This center is also a social space and a place of informal exchange - for those working there as well as for visitors. We visited one photo exhibition that presented the life stories of various black women.

We also had a short introduction about “one world floor” and Development Policy council of Berlin Civil Society Organizations. Since October 2016, the first development-policy and migrant-diasporic organizations have been using an office floor in the former administration building of what was before the “Kindl” brewery of Berlin.

“The agl, BER, CADUS, DaMigra, FairBindung, Fokus Sahel, the House of Cultures of Latin America, the ZFD, moveGlobal, NeMO and bridge it! are eleven organizations united under one roof, working as civil society actors in a globally fairer world and sustainable Berlin.”

### **Sustainable Development Goals**

After a coffee break, we watched a presentation about 17 Sustainable Development Goals made by Murat. Most of the participants had little beforehand knowledge. At first, Murat presented a short theoretical input about the history of the SDG’s and its importance in our globalized world. Later, we discussed on a deeper level the 16th goal “Peace, Justice and strong institutions”. For this, we did a workshop as proposed by Murat. All participants had to split in four groups, received a scheme of bicycle and had to discuss in the group the scheme of the bicycle like a model of peace. For example in some groups, “pedals” were an education, while for another - a society. Participants were asked to prepare presentations about their own visions of peace in this context. All teams worked very productively and it was very interesting to see the different opinions and ideas of each group for the same “bicycle”.

In the afternoon, Eva opened the session outside with an energizer which was similar to “paper, rock, scissors”, but in German language it sounds like shnip, shnap, shnup. The game was very energetic and helped us to “wake up” after the lunch.

### **Idea sharing**

Afterwards, we continued with the idea sharing on SDG’s and importance for future youth work. Again, we split in four groups and had to answer questions about peace and conflict. After we shared our ideas and the general idea was – that it is much easier to start changing the world by small steps made by yourself. E.g. We cannot easily stop industrial countries to pollute the air with CO<sub>2</sub>, but we can start recycling more in our everyday life and reduce travelling by plane as much as possible. It is the same principle regarding peacemaking; we could start working on this problem with young people locally in our small NGO. This activity aimed to explain the importance of SDG’s to the group and why this agenda needs to be adopted for the sake of everyone on this planet.

## Day 5 – Saturday 03/11/2018

- ❖ Breakfast
- ❖ Evaluation of visit and day at Berlin Global Village
- ❖ European funding in youth work Erasmus plus Youth in action
- ❖ Steps of writing a project
- ❖ Coffee break
- ❖ Open agenda
- ❖ Lunch
- ❖ Open agenda
- ❖ Coffee break
- ❖ Future Workshop ( phase 1 and 2)
- ❖ Dinner

### **Evaluation of visit and day at Berlin global village**

Nick led the evaluation; He placed three wall charts in different corners of the seminar room. The wall charts were highlights, low points and learnings. Then he asked us to write our evaluation using key words and stick them to the wall charts. It was an individual evaluation.

### **European funding in youth work Erasmus + Youth in action**

Andreas presented to us the programme Erasmus + of the European Union running from 2014 to 2020. He presented the outcome of a recent mid-term evaluation of this period and that the activities particularly of the youth nonformal learning strand have been highly successful in making young people more aware about European Union and international political issues and their role as active members of society. He then referred to the fact that the initiative Young Activists for Peace project series is only possible thanks to this support and that ICJA and partners had submitted another project application for activities in 2019 which would allow to continue the work started in 2015. He invited participants to think about how they could positively influence the further development of the project series in cooperating closely with the staff in their organisations' offices.

### **Steps of elaborating a project**

Nick led this activity by splitting us into seven groups of three persons. We had to write missions needed for the success of a project. There were five steps: application stage, preparation stage, training course, follow up and reporting.

### **Open agenda**

Mazlum presented to us Betzavta Chairs, this activity is focused on showing the importance of communication and dialogue among the different groups. Different tasks were given to the group, participants had to finish their task without talking: this task was about the place and number of

chairs. The tasks actually didn't match each other because the group can't communicate, so the result is many chair fights. The goal of this activity is to show the importance of communication in finding solutions which are in the benefit of both sides.

### **Future Workshop**

Phase 1: Critical

Nick start this activity by showing the 3 phases of the future workshop represented by keywords. Then he asked us to work in groups on this phase. Each group wrote on post it critical statements about the project series Young Activists for Peace.

## Day 6 – Sunday 04/11/2018

### **Overview:**

- ❖ Energizer
- ❖ Creation Phase
- ❖ Break
- ❖ Presentation of Projects 1, 2 and 3
- ❖ Lunch Break
- ❖ Presentation of Project 4 and 5
- ❖ Feedback
- ❖ Personal Evaluation: individually and in small groups
- ❖ Training Evaluation
- ❖ Handing out the Youth Pass
- ❖ Closing / State of Mind

### **Detailed description of and commenting on the day**

When the last day eventually arrived, the good morning-greetings were a bit less cheerful. Coffee might have helped us the last couple of days, but that day it was not the fatigue that made us stop smiling, but a sense of finality.

## **Beauty in all shapes:**

As soon as we were all seated in the seminar room though, a change in atmosphere happened. It's the creation phase: No time for being sentimental, it's time to put our brains on fire! We had one and a half hour to get our fantasy project in shape, to trim it down to the core meaning, to scrape off what seemed too unrealistic. From sky-high fantasies to a down-to-earth project. We got rid of the pixie dust, put our thoughts into words and our plans onto power point slides. In the last ten minutes of the last phase of our last day, people were on a productive rush finishing their preparation with a purpose- and powerful excitement stirred up the air.

There was no idea like another, the presentations delivered insight into five completely different concepts. The first three teams pitched very concrete projects with weekly planning and activity propositions, the fourth group introduced the cycle of the different phases volunteers go through (creating the next generation of trainers). The final team had come with a sort of meta-concept on how to create a pool of ideas and a stronger circular network.



Even though it was the realistic phase of the process, it was also the most magical one. Everybody brought something to the table and the diversity of our group was mirrored in the project outlines.

The feedback from peers, trainers and the organisation's project officer Andreas, came in handy and showed that our ideas were taken seriously. Andreas immediately scanned the potential of the projects and what he told us was making us all pay attention, proud of what we had created. There was no useless pat on the shoulder; there was just the simple phrase, It's up to you.





*It is up to us.* We can make it real if we continue taking the next steps. Critical phase, fantasy phase, creation phase. And now? There is no other program point on the agenda telling us what to do.

All the better because we sat in the seminar room long enough, now it's time to stand up, speak up and start!

### **So what did you learn today?**

The evaluation process is as important to the participants as it is to the organisation itself. Taking the time to think about what happened *after it all happened* is always different, because you can see the progress that took place during the training course in its entirety. The range of input and output is laid out in front of one's eyes: From the starting point to this very minute, sitting on a chair in the seminar room, being surrounded by people who were strangers not so long ago and are now part of each other's story.

Satisfaction and an expression of fulfilment could be seen on various faces, and hands were scribbling eagerly trying to transfer all the thoughts onto the paper in time. The evaluation was conducted in different stages. First, we had to reflect about our personal learning experience with the main focus on the soft skills we acquired. Even though the reflection was on an individual basis, we came together in small groups in order to share our notes.

It was beautiful to notice that our claimed achievements, were also considered true by the others who gave constant approval. As if their encouraging smile was an approving signature at the bottom of our notes. *Yes, I could see that you developed this skill. Yes, I recognized this talent in you.*

The evaluation that we had to fill as a feedback for the coordinators of the Youth Action for Peace program gave us the chance to be critical, but more importantly; to be thankful.



### **And the Youth Pass goes to...**

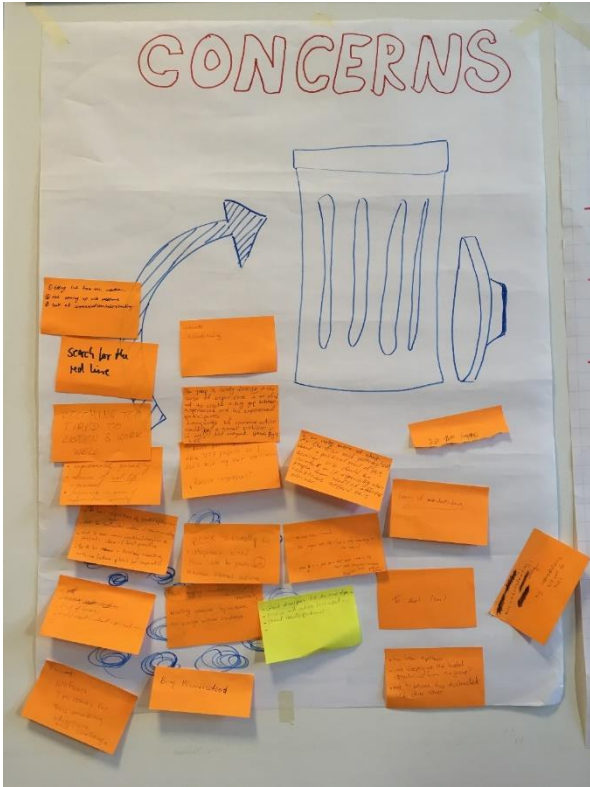
What a lovely idea to close up the training course! Instead of handing out the Youth Pass as if it was an empty sheet of paper, the trainers turned the distribution of our certificates into a meaningful ceremony. One participant got up, drew out one certificate of the pile, read the name of the person it should be awarded to, smiled and then described this person. Only when the group guessed who the "winner" was, the Youth Pass was handed over - official handshake and (slightly less official) hug included.

It might have been a person's sunny smile, one's strong personality, an ongoing joke or a great talent that were described.

Laughter filled the room while the pile grew smaller and smaller. It was a moment of immense joy,



The only thing we did not do was to take out the poster again on which our concerns were displayed, to check if we can put the post-its symbolically into the dustbin drawn next to the title. The poster was probably thrown away, which made it less of a ceremony but either way, our concerns ended up where they belong: in the garbage.



## Conclusions

*"It was the first time I saw SDGs in the context of my organization, it felt like finding the missing piece of the puzzle!"*

This statement taken from the motivation letter of a French participant demonstrates the spirit with which she and another 21 participants came to this seminar of the Young Activists for Peace project series.

After ICJA and its partners had organized 4 peace-promoting Erasmus + projects since 2015, it was rewarding to see the personal developments that had been triggered for many of the participants. Many of them participated in this seminar because after participating in "Young Activists for Peace" they had joined their sending organization and became committed to promoting peace as youth leaders.

The seminar therefore took place in a highly motivated and inclusive spirit. 21 participants from 10 countries with very different social, structural and political backgrounds had the opportunity to exchange views on issues that are of high concern for the young generation all over the European Union and in neighboring countries as well as worldwide. When analyzing the benefits that "Young Activists for Peace" brought for the participants, it was surprising to see that strengthening the personal commitment for peace beyond borders and barriers was defined being one of the major benefits. For example, several young people with a migration background or having fled their countries stated that the participation in a "Young Activists for Peace" Youth Exchange had enabled them for the first time to talk to others about their experiences and motivated them to become active for peace in their societies but also at European and Global level.

The broad range of perspectives and relevant social issues brought by participants from their own environment formed the basis for urgently needed discussions about the currently tangible threats to peace and even survival on our planet. The main question was how each and every one of us in what we are doing can contribute to creating "a world as we want it" and which is sustainable. This led to many interesting discussions and to a better understanding of the societies and background the individual participants came from.

The exchange with representatives of the organization "Global Village" and a "One World Promoter of the City of Berlin" was a valuable counterbalance to these discussions and provided additional information about the situation in Germany and the approaches used in this context.

The participants also had a hands-on experience and learned about methods of international youth work – they shared the experience they made, and the methods they use in their respective associations and groups. Supported by an experienced trainer they learned about other concepts such as "Young People as Agents of Peace", "The No Hate Speech Movement", "Betzavta" and "Human Library".

The exchange with each other was a joy for everyone and extremely successful, as could be seen at the "Future Workshop" on the last 2 days of the program. As a tangible result very concrete and well elaborated project ideas were presented and some of the participants and partner organizations are still in contact with each other to further develop projects promoting peace and the Sustainable Development Goals.

We, the team of ICJA, take this opportunity to thank all participants for their continuing commitment for peace under increasingly difficult circumstances. We also thank the partner organizations,

cooperating institutions and supporters of the project for their valuable cooperation without which this seminar and the development of “Young Activists for Peace” would not have been possible.

*Andreas Schwab*

*Nikolaus Ell*

### Feed back of volunteers

*I liked very much some new methods like ‘Human of...’ methods from the open agenda session , bike-peace method, I will use it in m future work for sure.*

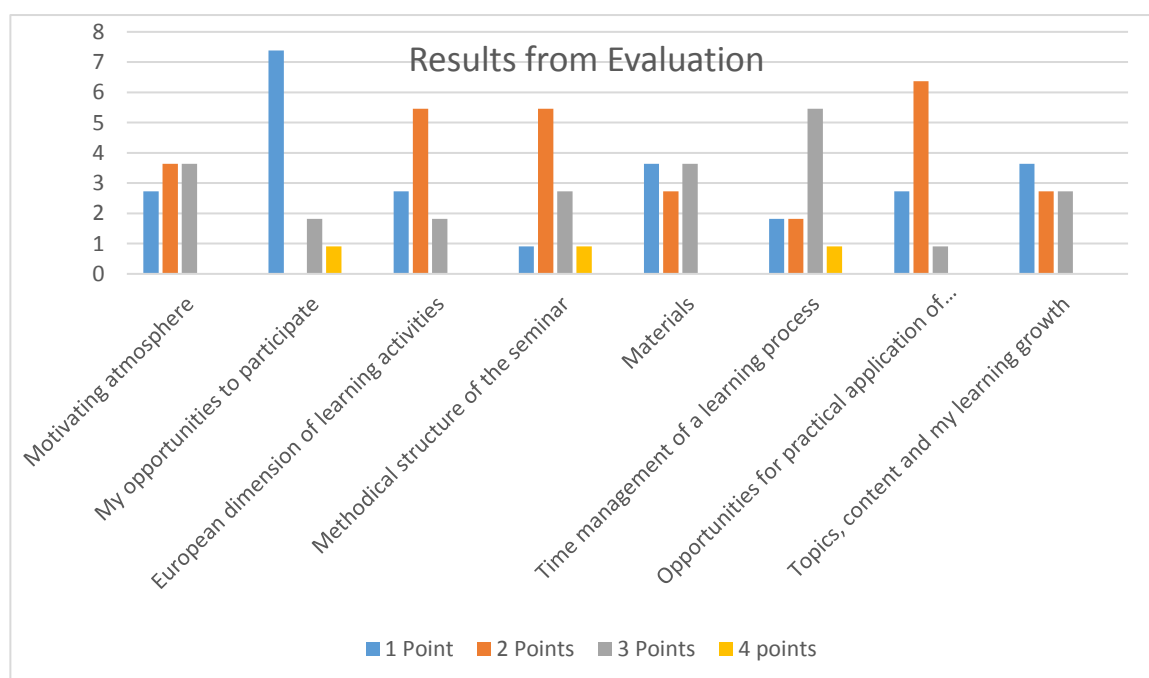
*TOP! I never miss out on an occasion to challenge myself and when it comes to new opportunities-methodologies, I absorbed all the information I could get.*

*I find it verý strong: Additionally so intensive.*

*The training course was very rich in general, diverse and at the same time very flexible and open to input. I felt constant positivity and support towards my ideas which was a pleasant surprise for me*

## Quantitative Analysis – Results from Evaluation Form

Points received				
	1 (best)	2	3	4 (worst)
Motivating atmosphere	27.3%	36.4%	36.4%	
My opportunities to participate	73.8%		18.2%	9.1%
European dimension of learning activities	27.3%	54.6%	18.2%	
Methodical structure of the seminar	9.1%	54.6%	27.3%	9.1%
Materials (texts, literature lists, presentations)	36.4%	27.3%	36.4%	
Time management of a learning process	18.2%	18.2%	54.6%	9.1%
Opportunities for practical application of courses content	27.3%	63.7%	9.1%	
Topics, content and my learning growth	36.4%	27.3%	27.3%	



# Annex

## Presentations of potential future projects

### YOUNG ACTIVISTS FOR PEACE

“Inclusive dialogues: a hands-on research project” Samos Island, Greece

#### General Aims

- promoting dialogue
- promoting equity and social inclusion
- creating a product as outcome
- working closely with the local community

#### Application Stage

- 3 weeks program in summer
- funding from research institutes
- approaching organizations promoting diversity and human rights across different communities (LGBTQ, disabled, youth, women, technical/alternative education, refugees)
- getting to know participants’ profile (based on their experience, 18-35, local participants & international participants)

#### Preparation Stage

- promoting the program (creation of a visibility plan)
- Hiring staff (trainers, facilitators, researchers)
- Creating a participants’ biography book (playful)
- finding a politically active organization (for local activities)
- working together with local organization (ask first, decide together)

#### Activity-Training Course

- mixed group workshops (locals & international participants)
- conducting ethical & inclusive research
- introduction of quantitative & qualitative research
- research training (interviews & other qualitative tools like participatory active research, analysis)
- short pilot phase (1 day conducting & 1 day reflecting)
- Field research with acquired tools (training application)

## **Analysis & Production**

- Documentation of analysis, results & production
- Planning how to create the product & present it
- Installations
- Theater play/photography/documentary
- Podcasts/poetry slam
- Music

## **Presentation**

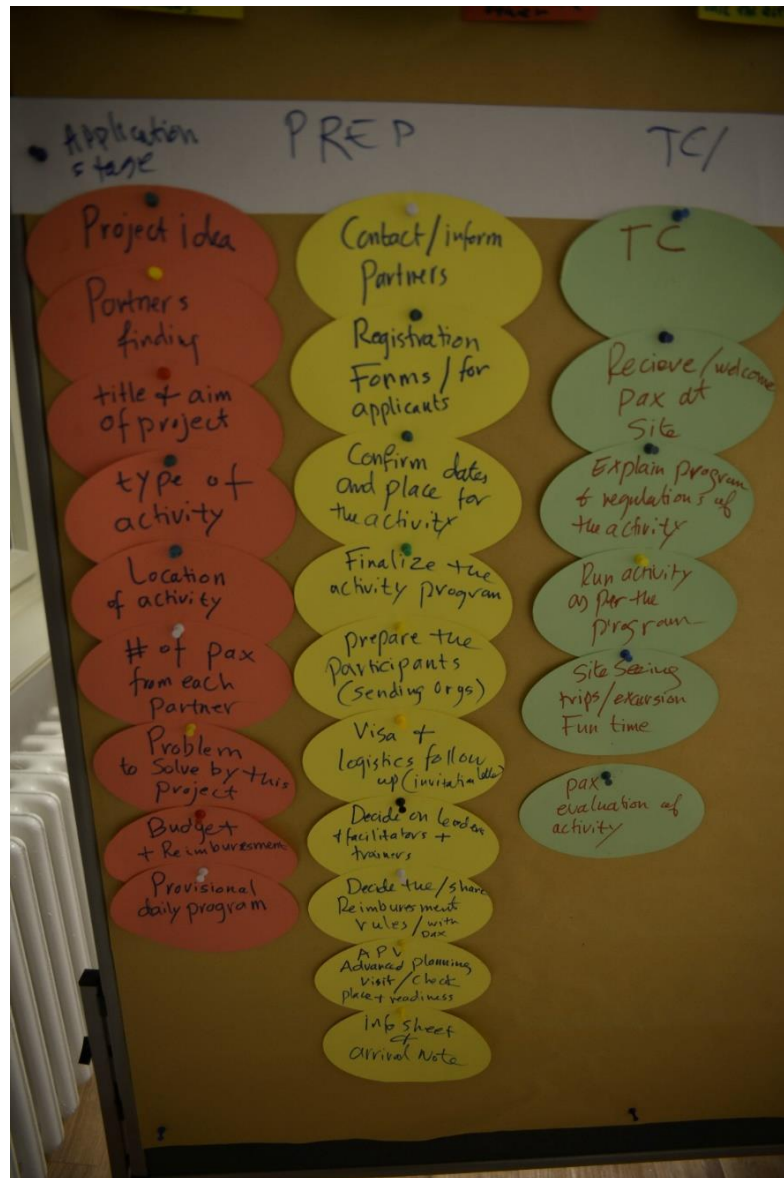
- Campaign brainstorming
- Local presentation (results) to global presentation
- Personal closing

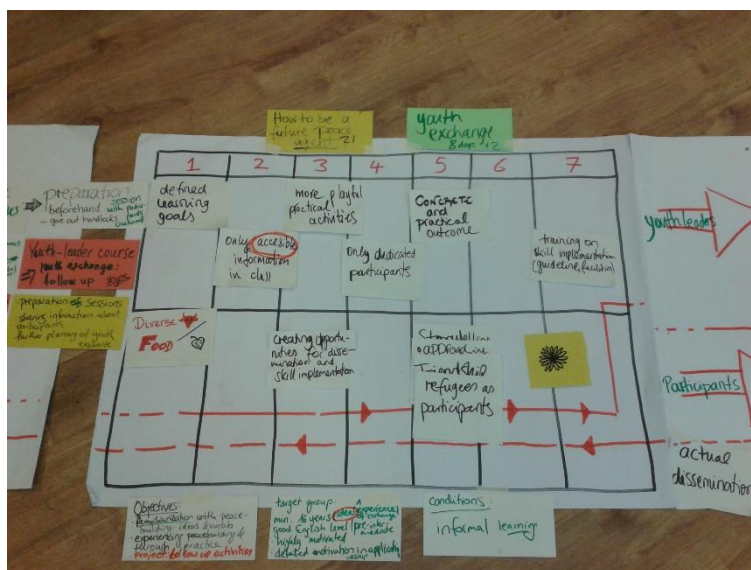
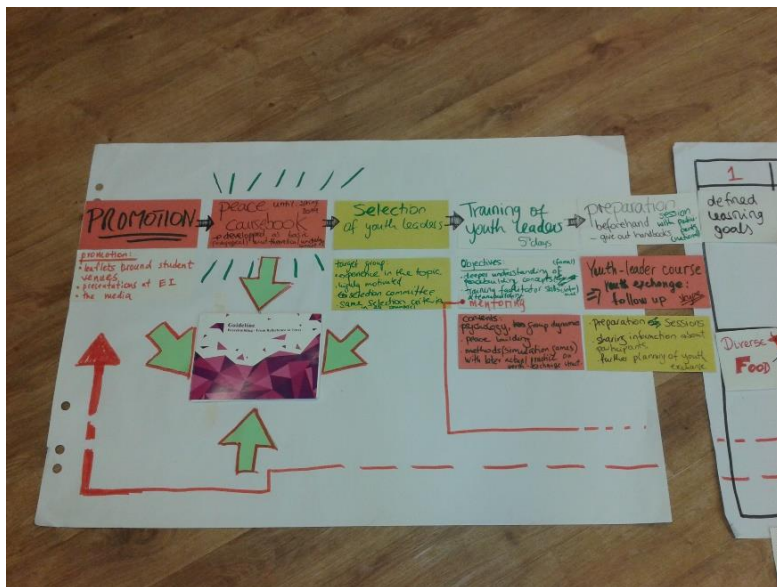
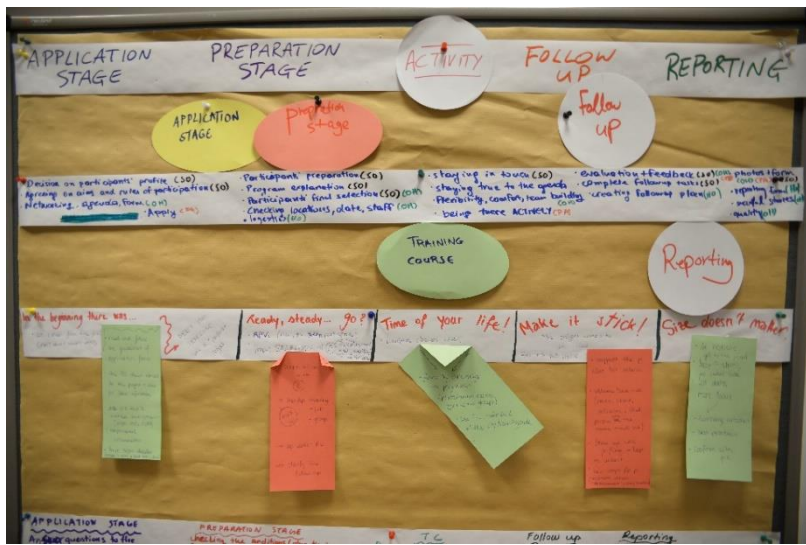
## **Follow-up**

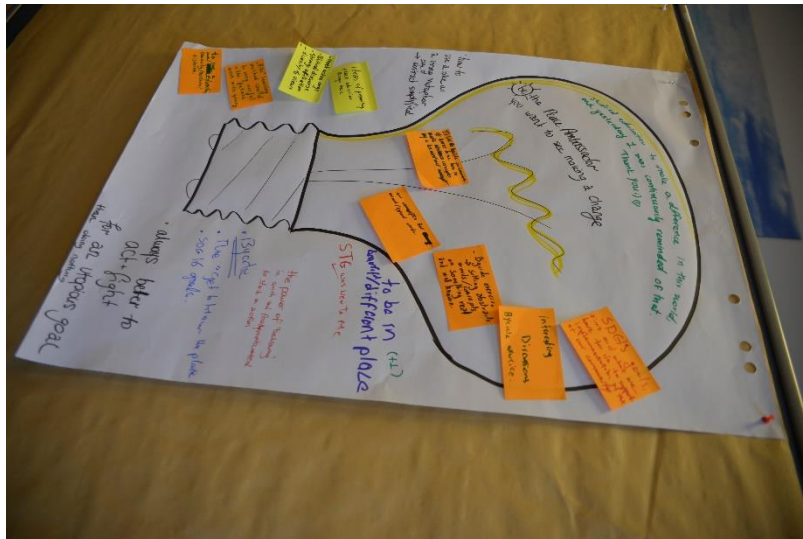
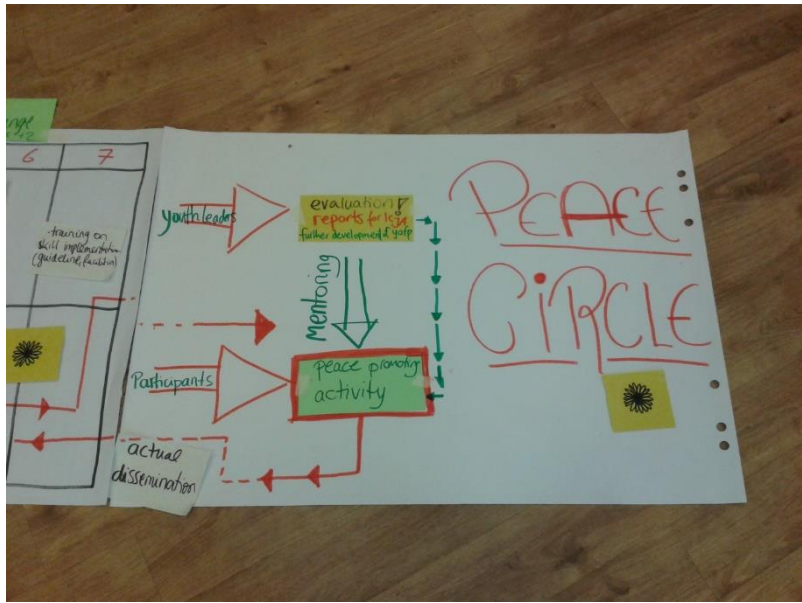
- Reflection & evaluation of the program (after we left the island)
- Campaign starts & continues
- Reunion half a year later (apply for this follow-up and maybe plan a publication in that time frame)
- Create a short article











## Participating Organizations

BELGIUM	COMPAGNONS BÂTISSEURS BELGIUM CBB	<a href="http://www.compagnonsbattisseurs.be">www.compagnonsbattisseurs.be</a>
FRANCE	CONCORDIA	<a href="http://www.concordia.fr">www.concordia.fr</a>
FRANCE	SOLIDARITES JEUNESSES MCP	<a href="http://www.solidaritesjeunesses.org">www.solidaritesjeunesses.org</a>
GREECE	ELIX	<a href="http://www.elix.org.gr/index.php/en">www.elix.org.gr/index.php/en</a>
TURKEY	GENÇTUR	<a href="http://genctur.com.tr/">genctur.com.tr/</a>
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	Lastochki	<a href="http://icye.ru">icye.ru</a>
PALESTINE	IPYL	<a href="http://www.ipyl.org">www.ipyl.org</a>
ISRAEL	BALADNA	<a href="http://www.momken.org">www.momken.org</a>
GEORGIA	CIVIL FORUM for PEACE	<a href="http://www.cforum.org">www.cforum.org</a>
AZERBAIJAN	COMMON SENSE	<a href="http://www.csyo-az.org/en">www.csyo-az.org/en</a>
GERMANY	ICJA	<a href="http://www.icja.de">www.icja.de</a>

## Articles, Links and Social Media

### Links of international organizations

---

#### *GHD - Turkey*

[http://gonulluhizmetlerdernegi.org/genclikdegisimleri/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2018/04/1\\_YAP\\_2018\\_ICJA\\_call\\_youth-exchange\\_Sievershausen\\_2018.pdf](http://gonulluhizmetlerdernegi.org/genclikdegisimleri/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2018/04/1_YAP_2018_ICJA_call_youth-exchange_Sievershausen_2018.pdf)

---

#### *Estyes-Estonia*

<https://estyes.ee/projects/seminar-young-activists-for-peace-saksamaal/>

---

#### *Elix- Greece*

<https://www.elix.org.gr/training/eu-projects/eu-project-proposal-gr/call-tc-germany-youth-activist-peace-want-2018>

*Presentation of the project ICJA website:*

---

---

<https://www.icja.de/en/content/Workcamps/Jugendbegegnungen/Young-Activists-for-Peace/>

---

International press release sent to all partners in September 2018

---

*Videos with participants*

<https://youtu.be/lpkuq0ldsy4>

---

## Facebook ICJA

The screenshot shows the Facebook profile of ICJA Freiwilligenaustausch weltweit (ICYE Germany). The profile picture is a stylized red and white graphic of a face. The cover photo shows a group of approximately 20 young people of various ethnicities posing in front of a brick building. A post from 6. November 2018 is visible, with the text: "Young activists for peace and a world we want ICJA has hosted more than 300 participants since 2015 in the frame of youth exchanges: Peace education, democracy trainings and empowerment for young people. An evaluation and planning seminar took place in Berlin with all partners of the project. We are looking forward to continue on this path with more activities to strengthen peace and democracy. // Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union #icja https://www.icja.de/.../Bildu.../EU-Projekte/Unsere-EU-Projekte/ Übersetzung anzeigen". The left sidebar contains navigation options: Startseite, Bewertungen, Fotos, Videos, Beiträge (highlighted), Veranstaltungen, Info, and Community.

## Facebook intern "young activist"

The image is a screenshot of a Facebook page for 'Young Activists for Peace'. The page header includes the Facebook logo, the page name, a search bar, and the user 'Nikolaus' with options for 'Startseite' and 'Freunde'. Below the header is a navigation bar with 'Seite', 'Postfach', 'Jobs verwalten', 'Benac...', '62', 'Insights', 'Beitragsoptionen', and 'Mehr'. The left sidebar contains a menu with 'Startseite', 'Beiträge', 'Bewertungen', 'Videos', 'Fotos', 'Info', 'Notizen', 'Veranstaltungen', 'Gruppen', 'Community', 'Hervorheben', and 'Promotions verwalten'. The main content area shows a post from 'Young Activists for Peace' posted by 'Nikolaus Ell' on October 30, 2018. The post text reads: 'YOUNG ACTIVISTS FOR PEACE - Berlin, 30.10.-05.11.2018 - We are happy to welcome 25 international participants, trainers and coworkers to the international training, evaluation and planning seminar and look forward to fruitful discussions, evaluation and planning sessions to shape the future of the YOUNG ACTIVISTS FOR PEACE PROJECT SERIES! Übersetzung anzeigen'. Below the text is a photograph of two people in dark clothing on a boat on a body of water, one holding a large, shimmering, spherical object. The background shows a city skyline across the water.

